

A few months after this perilous adventure John Yeager died, December, 1861, aged 48 years. When the battle of Alleghany was fought in that same month the balls seemed to fall like hail upon the roof, but none of the inmates were touched.

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### ABRAM DUFFIELD.

The first cottage prayer meeting the writer remembers was at the home of Abram Duffield. Early one Sabbath in May, the writer's parents with their four children came to the Duffield home to attend the meeting that had been announced. No one had yet arrived when we reached the place. Upon entering the porch voices were heard within as if persons were engaged in reading or prayer. Standing by the door and listening we found that it was the venerable Abram Duffield reading to his invalid wife the account given by Saint Mathew of our Redeemer's temptation in the wilderness. He was reading at the moment where it is written: "He shall give His angels charge concerning thee and in their hands shall they bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone." Then she remarked: "Oh, that is so good; how encouraging it is for poor me." Finally the venerable man resumed and then prayed after reading. "Then the Devil leaveth him, and behold angels came and ministered unto him. Then again the same one observed: "Oh, how good to hear that our Lord gained the victory. How safe it makes one feel to have him for our Saviour who is so loved by the angels." There seemed to be

mutual rejoicing over the Redeemer's victory, and if the benefits of this victory had been for these two old people alone, their satisfaction could not have been, seemingly, more real. When silence intervened we knocked at the door and were told to come in. There were the two old people, and no one else, in the room. It was not long, however, before quite a number assembled, and the cottage prayer meeting was quite a spirited one-

Abram Duffield is believed to have come from the lower Valley, during the Revolution or soon after, and at the time referred to was living on the farm now occupied by Newton Duffield. The venerable Mrs Duffield was Hannah Moore, daughter of Moses Moore, the well known pioneer.

From Mrs Catherine Kellison, on the Dry Branch of Swago, we gathered the following particulars.

Andrew Duffield was the eldest son of Abram Duffield's family. He married Jane Moore, daughter of Robert Moore, Senior. In reference to Andrew Duffield's family, we learn that Robert M. Duffield lives in Jackson County, West Virginia. William Duffield, a Union soldier, died during the war at the home of Jacob Waugh in Barbour County. Andrew Duffield, Junior, died of fever at the age of sixteen years. Rebecca Jane Duffield is now deceased. Eliza Duffield became the wife of Captain Walton Allen of Clover Creek, who was a well known scout in the late war between the States. Catherine Duffield was married to Clark Kellison, near Buckeye, a Union soldier under Sheridan. He was also on detached service on the

western plains after the war in the U. S. Cavalry. He received his discharge just in time to escape the Custer massacre.

John Duffield, son of Abram, the pioneer, married Rebecca Sharp, daughter of John Sharp, Senior. Mr Duffield settled at the Mill property on Stony Creek, but his later years were spent on the farm where his father Abram had lived and died. His sons were Hamilton, Wesley, Newton—who lives on the old homestead;—Emory, and McKendree in Colorado. Andrew, a bright and beautiful little boy, the pet and pride of the household, was at play on the porch. His mother was busily sewing just inside the door, not six feet away. Wondering what was keeping Andrew so quiet, she turned to the door and found him dead—strangled by the crupper of her saddle. The shock was such that she never fully recovered from the effects, though she lived for more than fifty years afterwards.

Sarah Jane Duffield became the wife of Joseph Moore, son of the late Addison Moore.

Nancy Ellen Duffield was married to the late Marcellus Ratliff, and now lives on a portion of the old homestead near Green hill school house.

William Duffield, son of Abram and Hannah Duffield, married Hannah Brock, daughter of Thomas Brock. He settled near the Sulphur Spring. The property is at present occupied by William Gay, whose wife, Martha Gay, is a daughter of William Duffield. Mr Gay was a Union soldier, and had remarkable adventures while escaping from the army below Richmond, and making his way with five or six others

through East Virginia, the Valley, the mountains of Bath and Pocahontas back to Stony Creek.

Caroline Duffield was married to George Aldridge. They are living in Iowa, having the comforts of a prosperous home.

Hannah Duffield was married to David Cochran and lives at the end of Droop Mountain.

One of William Duffield's daughters died in early youth of what was called the "cold plague," but judging from reported symptoms it would be called now "congestive chills."

This hard working man, William Duffield, finally met his death by a tree falling upon him which he was chopping for browse. The snow was quite deep, and when the family became uneasy that he did not come to dinner, Rebecca, the eldest of the family, went to see what was the reason. She found him dead under the tree, buried in the snow. She told what had happened, and other members of the family hastened to the neighboring homes for assistance. Rebecca went back and chopped the large tree in two, and had the log rolled away before any one had time to get there, and was holding her poor dead father's head in her arms. Rebecca now resides in Kansas, and is reported to be living in very comfortable circumstances.

Mary Duffield became the wife of Alexander Moore and went to the west.

The writer cherishes very tender recollections of John Duffield, the honest and faithful miller, whom he met so frequently at mill when a mere youth. A few

months before the venerable man's death we met after a separation of more than thirty years. It was at a sacramental service, and during the recess we met and conversed for some time. He feelingly expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet once more in this life. From what I can learn this was about the last time my venerable friend ever put to his lips the visible cup of salvation.

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### WILLIAM WANLESS.

For more than a hundred years the Wanless name has been a familiar one in our region of country. According to tradition vaguely entertained, Ralph and Stephen Wanless, natives of England, came to Virginia and settled on the Wanless place, near Mount Tabor school house, in the "Hills," five miles north of Huntersville. One of Ralph's sons was William Wanless, who married Nancy Wilson, from near Fort Defiance, Virginia. She was a sister of the wife of Isaac Moore, Senior, of Knapps Creek. They settled on Back Alleghany, and were the parents of nine daughters and seven sons. The daughters were Rachel, Jane, Eliza, Martha, Nancy Ann, Margaret who died aged 7 years, Mary died aged 15 years, Melinda who was drowned when a young woman in Leatherbark Creek, and Matilda. The sons were James, Andrew, Nelson, Ralph, Allen, and two unnamed who died in infancy.

Rachel, the eldest daughter, married the late John Logan, and settled in Randolph County, lived awhile in Barbour County, and finally located on Alleghany.